

METHOD FOR CONVERTING NATURAL GAS TO OLEFINS

Related Applications

7/12/04
[0001] This application is a continuation patent application of, and claims priority to, *now U.S. Patent No. 6,602,920* commonly owned co-pending patent application U.S.S.N. 09/803,122, filed March 9, 2001, *1* entitled, "Method for Converting Natural Gas to Liquid Hydrocarbons," by Hall et al., which itself is a continuation-in-part of commonly owned U.S. Patent Number 6,323,247, B1, which issued on November 27, 2000 and is entitled, "Method for Converting Natural Gas to Liquid Hydrocarbons," by Hall, et al., which itself is a continuation of commonly owned U. S. Patent Number 6,130,260, which issued on October 10, 2000 and is entitled, "Method for Converting Natural Gas to Liquid Hydrocarbons," by Hall, et al., all of which are assigned to the assignee of the present patent application, and all of which are incorporated by reference herein for all purposes.

Field of the Invention

[0002] This invention pertains to conversion of natural gas to hydrocarbon liquids. More particularly, natural gas is converted to reactive hydrocarbons and the reactive hydrocarbons are reacted with additional natural gas to form hydrocarbon liquids.

Background of the Invention

[0003] Natural gas often contains about 60-100 mole per cent methane, the balance being primarily heavier alkanes. Alkanes of increasing carbon number are normally present in decreasing amounts. Carbon dioxide, nitrogen, and other gases may be present.

[0004] Conversion of natural gas into hydrocarbon liquids has been a technological goal for many years. The goal has become even more important in recent years as more natural gas has been found in remote locations, where gas pipelines may not be economically justified. A significant portion of the world reserves of natural gas occurs in such remote regions. While
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